

II. Amendments to the Claims

Kindly cancel Claims 3-4 , 9-10, and 19-20, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, and 13, follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A power actuated piston tool with a piston automatic return, comprising:

an external barrel having a rear end;

a guiding barrel disposed in the external barrel;

a fastener guide disposed in the external barrel;

a piston means having a piston shank and a piston head disposed in said guiding barrel, said piston means being configured to be moveable between a firing position, an initial position, and a fastening position;

a firing-pin assembly disposed at the rear end of the external barrel and operatively connected to the external barrel; and

piston return means configured to automatically return the piston means from the fastening position to the firing position, said piston return means being disposed on said piston shank between the piston head and the fastener guide, said

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piston return means comprising a one piece elastic returning bush having a shape of bellows, said returning bush having (i) an external bellows diameter which varies regularly in a longitudinal direction, and (ii) an internal bellows diameter which varies regularly in the longitudinal direction, said piston return means being configured such that, in the initial position, a sum of a longitudinal length of said piston return means plus a longitudinal length of the fastener guide is greater than a longitudinal length of the piston shank, said returning bush having at least one end segment comprising two narrowings and one swelling, the maximum internal diameter of said at least one end segment being less than the maximum internal diameter of non-end segments of said returning bush, said at least one end segment having a maximum wall thickness which is greater than maximum wall thicknesses of the non-end segments.

2. (Previously Amended) The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 1, wherein said returning bush is configured to approximate at least one of (i) a stack of truncated-spherical segments, (ii) a stack of frusto-conical segments, and (iii) a stack of barrel-shaped segments.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the two end segments of the returning bush ~~said piston return means~~ has an internal end surface that is curved such that a position of a center of curvature of the curved end surface is disposed at a distance from an end-face of said piston return means.

6. (Previously Amended) The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 2, wherein a length of said returning bush is configured such that, in the initial position, a piston shank end-face does not reach its extreme forward position and remains at a distance from a base.

7. (Previously Amended) The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 2, wherein a maximum external diameter of said returning bush is configured to be smaller than an internal diameter of the guiding barrel such that, in the

initial position, an external diameter of said returning bush is smaller than the internal diameter of the guiding barrel.

8. (Currently Amended). A power operated piston tool with a piston automatic return, comprising:

an outer barrel having a firing chamber at a first end thereof;

a guiding barrel mounted in the outer barrel;

a fastener guide having a thin end with an outer surface and a thick part disposed in the guiding barrel, said fastener guide being configured such that said thin end protrudes from the outer barrel;

a piston having (i) a piston head disposed in the guiding barrel and (ii) a piston shank disposed in the fastener guide, said piston being configured to be moveable from a firing position to an initial blocking position and to a fastening position;

a firing-pin assembly mounted at the first end of the outer barrel; and

a hollow element having a bellows shape configured to cause an automatic return of the piston from the fastening position to the firing position, said hollow element being

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disposed on the piston shank between the piston head and the fastener guide, said hollow element comprising an elastomeric material, an external diameter of the hollow element and an internal diameter of the hollow element both varying regularly to form uniformly spaced swellings and narrowings running longitudinally on an outer surface and an inner surface of the hollow element, wherein between each two neighboring narrowings is formed a segment with at least one of (i) a sinusoidal, (ii) a frusta-spherical, (iii) a frusta-conical, and (iv) a barrel wall contour, and wherein, in the initial blocking position, a sum of a longitudinal length of said hollow element plus a longitudinal length of the fastener guide is greater than a length of the piston shank, said hollow element having at least one end segment comprising two narrowings and one swelling, the maximum internal diameter of said at least one end segment being less than the maximum internal diameter of non-end segments of said hollow element, said at least one end segment having a maximum wall thickness which is greater than maximum wall thicknesses of the non-end segments.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 8, wherein an inner end surface of end segments of said hollow element is outwardly curved.

12. (Previously Amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 8, wherein a sum of a longitudinal length of said hollow element plus a length of the fastener guide is greater than a length of the piston shank, said piston being configured such that a piston shank end face is distanced from the outer surface of the fastener guide in an initial blocking position of the piston.

13. (Currently Amended) A power operated piston tool with a piston automatic return, comprising:

an outer barrel having a firing chamber at a first end thereof;

a guiding barrel mounted in the outer barrel;

a fastener guide having a thin end with an outer surface and a thick part disposed in the guiding barrel, said

fastener guide being configured such that said thin end protrudes from the outer barrel;

a piston having (i) a piston head disposed in the guiding barrel and (ii) a piston shank disposed in the fastener guide, said piston being configured to be moveable between a firing position and a fastening position;

a firing-pin assembly mounted at the first end of the outer barrel; and

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a one-piece hollow element formed of segments and disposed on the piston shank between the piston head and the fastener guide, said hollow element comprising elastomeric material, wherein a sum of a length of the fastener guide plus a length of said hollow element when the piston is in an initial blocking position is greater than a length of the piston shank, said piston being configured such that a piston shank end face is distanced from the outer surface of the fastener guide in the initial blocking position of the piston, , said hollow element having at least one end segment comprising two narrowings and one swelling, the maximum internal diameter of said at least one end segment being less than the maximum internal diameter of non-end segments of said hollow element, said at least one end segment having a maximum wall thickness which is greater than

maximum wall thicknesses of the non-end segments ~~said hollow element having at least one end segment which has a thicker wall than a non-end segment.~~

14. (Previously Amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein a wall of each segment of the segments of the hollow element has a sinusoidal cross-section.

2 / 15. (Previously Amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein a wall of each segment of the segments of the hollow element has a frustum of sphere cross-section.

16. (Previously Amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein a wall of each segment of the segments of the hollow element has a frustum of a cone cross-section.

17. (Previously Amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein a wall of each segment of the segments of the hollow element has a barrel cross-section.

18. (Previously Amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein a wall of each segment of the segments of the hollow element has a frustum of barrel cross-section.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)
